

### Amendments to the Claims

1. **(Currently amended)** An ointment external preparation for wounds for use in treatment of skin damages, comprising

- a water-soluble polymer in an uncross-linked state of 2 % or more based on the weight of the preparation,
- a crosslinking agent in an amount of from 0.01% to 20% based on the weight of the preparation,
- an iodine-based bactericidal agent in an amount of from 0.1% to 10% based on the weight of the preparation, and
- a fluidization agent, and
- a sugar in an amount of from 5% to 70% based on the weight of the preparation,

wherein the moisture content of the preparation is 3% or less based on the weight of the preparation,

- the water-soluble polymer has carboxylic group or sulfonic acid group in its structure,
- the water-soluble polymer in the preparation is in sol state before use, and then the water-soluble polymer simultaneously shows phase transition to gel after the preparation absorbs exudation in a wounded area of the skin, and
- the crosslinking agent is a polyvalent metal salt ~~having sufficient solubility to the exudation~~ selected from the group consisting of an aluminum-containing cross-linking agent, a polyvalent metal chloride, a polyvalent metal bromide, a polyvalent metal oxide, a polyvalent metal salt of an organic acid, a polyvalent metal salt of a silicate, an aluminum-and-magnesium-containing compound, and a combination of at least two kinds thereof, and
- the sugar is sucrose or a sugar having a therapeutic effect, wherein the sucrose is selected from the group consisting of refined sugar, granulated sugar and white soft sugar, and the sugar having a therapeutic effect is selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol, fructose, glucose, xylitol, lactose, maltose, maltitol and trehalose.

2. **(Previously presented)** The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the content of the water-soluble polymer is 5% or more based on the weight of the preparation.

3-5. **(Cancelled)**

6. **(Previously presented)** The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the water-soluble polymer is sodium polyacrylate.

7. **(Previously presented)** The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the polyvalent metal salt is aluminum-containing crosslinking agent.

8-12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Previously presented)** The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the fluidization agent is polyethylene glycol.

14. **(Previously presented)** The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the bactericidal agent is povidone iodine or iodine.

**15. (Currently amended)** An ointment external preparation for wounds for use in treatment of skin damages, comprising

- a sodium polyacrylate in an uncross-linked state of 2% or more based on the weight of the preparation,
- an aluminum-containing crosslinking agent in an amount of from 0.01% to 20% based on the weight of the preparation,
- a sucrose in an amount of from 5% to 70% based on the weight of the preparation,
- an iodine in an amount of from 0.1% to 10% based on the weight of the preparation, and
- polyethylene glycol,

wherein the moisture content of the preparation is 3% or less based on the weight of the preparation.

**16. (New)** The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the sugar is granulated sugar or white soft sugar.